

Texas officials question possible nuke waste site

United Press International
LUBBOCK — Federal officials have evaded answering questions from the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 about proposed nuclear waste disposal sites, district spokesmen said.

sible waste disposal areas. Locations in other states also are being considered, water district officials said. The conservation district sent copies of a letter outlining their complaints with the energy department to President Reagan, congressional leaders and Texas officials. "I sincerely believe that the DOE is not accurately re-

sponding to my questions," Conkright said. "Our technical people were appalled at some of DOE's responses." Wayne Wyatt, conservation district manager, said Thursday district geologists have studied the federal energy officials' responses to district questions. "We're disappointed that

they are just not being truthful," Wyatt said. Among other issues, the geologists said test hole drilling around Hereford indicated moving underground water. They asked about possible leakage problems with water moving through salt beds in which the nuclear waste might be stored.

Water project might solve water problem

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Groundwater recharge projects may avert an impending water supply crisis that threatens economic havoc in the plains states and nationwide, witnesses told a Senate panel Thursday.

Bereuter was one of several witnesses testifying in favor of a bill by Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., to require a study of the potential of groundwater recharge in the High Plains and western states. "Groundwater depletion is a long-range problem that will not have an easy, quick fix," Nickles said. "It will probably take decades. But (the proposed legislation) is a rational beginning."

"If we do nothing to reverse the trend of declining water tables, whole areas of the country face drastically altered conditions," said Rep. Doug Bereuter, R-Neb. "The impact of inadequate water supplies upon agricultural production, industrial development and energy production will be staggering," he said.

The legislation would authorize \$500,000 for studies to determine where at least 21 groundwater recharge demonstration projects would be located and then authorize \$20 million to design, construct and

operate the facilities over year period. Recharge is a means of replenishing groundwater supplies. Possible options are surface storage or processing irrigation water before pumping it back to the groundwater source. Witnesses said the Ogallala Aquifer — the water and irrigation source for the High Plains states of Colorado, Kansas, Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Nebraska, South Dakota — is being quickly depleted by increased irrigation and municipal use. Osborn and other witnesses said that unless some means of replenishing the aquifer is found, more than 5 million acres in the High Plains will be dryland farming or range by the year 2020.

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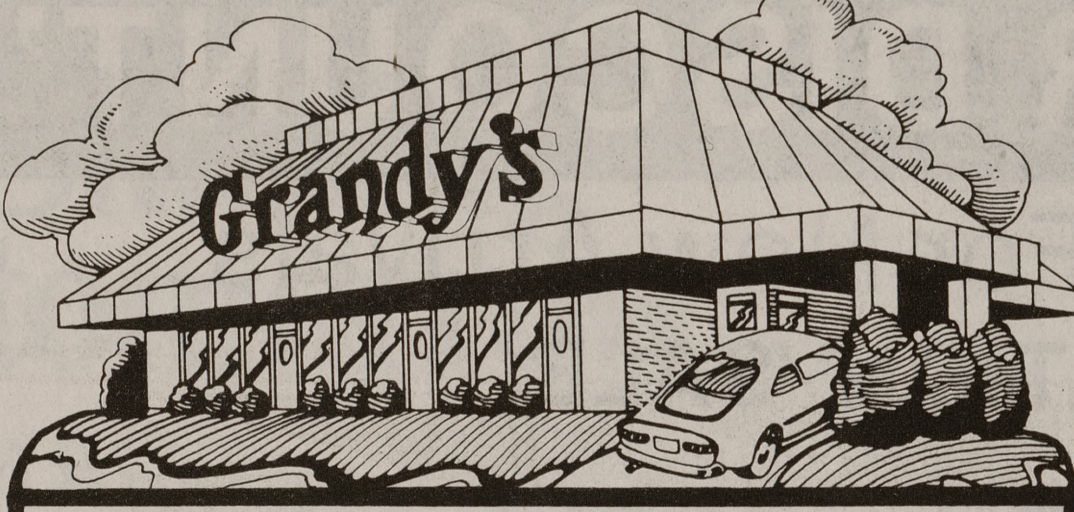
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Steel firms join

United Press International
DALLAS — Financial Thursday expressed caution out the merger of LTV Co. steel subsidiary, Jones & Laughlin of Pittsburgh, with Republic Steel of Cleveland, but officials said they made their move.

The new company, known as LTV Steel, headquartered in Cleveland, would become the second largest steel company in country behind U.S. Steel. The merger is subject to approval several agencies and the holders of both J&L and public.

U.S. Steel spokesman Higie in Pittsburgh said his company had not fully studied terms of the merger. When trading on LTV Republic stocks resumed on New York Stock Exchange Thursday, LTV opened higher than its level Tuesday trading was suspended. Republic shares showed a slight gain.

Analysts said that was expected because the merger proposal announced Wednesday, would only benefit Republic stockholders. Under the terms, Republic stockholders would get about \$35 of LTV securities for each public share, which closed Tuesday at \$26.50.

Together, J&L and Republic have lost nearly \$700 million since 1981. Julian Scheer, LTV's vice president for corporate affairs, said Wall Street reacting favorably to the merger even though some broker firms reported disfavor to the merger.

He said LTV Steel would "concentrate all the facilities build a better and bigger company." Scheer admitted the industry was in deep trouble because of foreign competition and the domestic recession. He said more worker layoffs were likely.

The Chicago Sun-Times reported that the merger is to result in a permanent reduction of the Buffalo, N.Y., and the likely elimination of basic steelmaking in Gadsden, Ala.



Aggie SWC

Lest you lose the nearest dumps second season. The Aggie Saturday. They might

TO SAY SAT an understatement what the Aggies \$7,000. A win you can go ahead. That's the way Three hours later making coaches the Wattism) caning Georgia, Ohio. When you play and Arkansas, you all three. A team Baylor. Or Rice. you begin SWC. Losses to Carolina awfully tough for conference game. Not impossible.

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WHAT ALL T race for post-season Saturday, and lose. At A&M's pre-said he would be a bowl game this So would a lo ready. The season

Pokes f back slo with Al

United Press International
DALLAS — The boys Thursday sign back Gary Allen, a to cut this summer Houston Oilers, to not left open by rookie Chuck McSwain

Allen, 5-10 and was named to the Athletic Conference times during his time University of Hawaii

In seven games w season, Allen r koffs for an average per year. Republic's largest Alabama, it was reported Thursday.

The Chicago Sun-Times reported that the merger is to result in a permanent reduction of the Buffalo, N.Y., and the likely elimination of basic steelmaking in Gadsden, Ala. Officials from Republic red all comments to LTV Washington, but spokes there issued no immediate ment on the report. Jones & Laughlin Steel Co a wholly-owned subsidiary LTV, acquired the Cleveland-based Republic Steel Wednesday. The merger combines operations of two money-steel corporations under banner LTV Steel, which is the second largest steel behind U.S. Steel. The merger must still approved by stockholders both companies and the Securities and Exchange Commission. LTV Steel at full cap would employ 60,000 analysts said the merger result in layoffs.